

drawn to protected cathode structures, classified in class 313, subclass 309.

ELECTION WITHOUT TRAVERSE BETWEEN
GROUP I AND GROUP II

Applicants elect without traverse Group II, recited in Claims 10 – 18 and 36 - 44, drawn to protected cathode structures, classified in class 313, subclass 309.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 – 9, 19, 20, 22 – 29, 30 - 32 and 33 - 35 without prejudice.

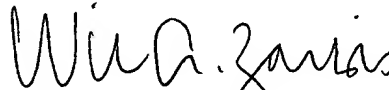
EXAMINER INTERVIEW

On December 6, 2002, Applicants' agent, William A. Zarbis, and Examiner Day conducted a telephone conference. During the telephone conference, Mr. Zarbis and Examiner Day clarified the grouping and numbering of the Claims of the present Application. Applicants wish to thank Examiner Day for taking time for the telephone conference.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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